

# Middletown Commission on the Arts

Minutes, May 23, 2012

## Present

Franca Biales  
Chelsea Rak (student rep)  
Joyce Kirkpatrick (7:12)  
Linda Salafia (council)  
Lea Tomaszewski  
Jenny Hawkins Lecce (sec.)  
Lee Godburn (chair)  
Barbara Arafah  
David Davis  
Charlotte McCoid (8:14 p.m.)

## Also Present

Stephan Allison, staff

## Absent

Lauren Hodge (student rep)  
Richard Kamins  
Bob Santangelo (council)  
Maria Malafronte (student rep)  
Cassandra Day (vice-chair)  
Fran Ganguli

## Call to order

Commission Chair Godburn called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. at the Municipal Building, Room 208, Middletown, CT.

**Public session:** None.

## Minutes from April 25, 2012

Motion to approve by Barbara, second by Jenny. No discussion. Carried unanimously.

## Remarks from the Chair

Commission Chair Godburn remarked that one of our commissioners has been missing for some time and we send our best wishes for her recovery and return.

## Old Business

**Budget Report** – no report

### Program Update

- i) Arts Stakeholders Group: next meeting May 30<sup>th</sup> noon, Hubbard Room, Russell Library on MiddletownRemix project with Wesleyan CFA
- ii) Arts & Creative Industries Council, Creative Juice (Chamber of Commerce): ongoing. Meetings take place on the second Thursday of the month.

**Website- Arts2Go.org:** up and working and going forward with promotion.

**Ethics Code:** gift limits, no report

**MCA 40<sup>th</sup>:** on going

**MCA Budget - 2012-2013:** ongoing. Final budget from Council cut arts by 10% and Stephan will be going to the Funds & Government Operations meeting to see about returning the special programs funds and Kids Arts funding.

**Other**

## Committee Reports

### Public Art Committee:

- i) Catalogue of Public Art Collection: Ellen Maurer has come in as the graphic designer and work is nearing conclusion. The Robin Price artwork has been returned and permanently placed and the recently purchased Keiji Shinohara artwork is now hanging in the municipal building.

- ii) MCAAAA 2012: ongoing. Joyce will present the award on June 1. The two artist judges (Kate Ten Eyck and David Schulz) selected Middletown H.S. student Elizabeth Russo's work.
- iii) Display Area Dedication: looking for a September date for the dedication. Plaques in progress.

#### **Planning & Projects Committee:**

- i) Arts Walk: ongoing. The north end art galleries are getting together to create a mid-week Art Walk with support from local restaurants.
- ii) Arts Advocacy Award: The event took place on May 21, 2012 at 5:30 with Mayor Dan Drew presenting the proclamations to NEAR, Inc./The Buttonwood Tree and the Greater Middletown Concert Association.

**Nominating Committee:** Review of Bylaws: ongoing.

**Other:** (Publicity Committee, Kids Arts Committee, Archive Committee): ongoing. Kids Arts continues enrolling children for the program. Creative Arts Workshops are full with waiting lists in all offerings. The Children's Circus is 2/3 full for the morning session and less than that for the afternoon presently. Enrollment is ongoing.

#### **New Business**

##### **Special Meeting with Mayor Drew:**

May 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, room 208 in the Municipal Building. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Efficiency Task Force, the future direction of MCA, and the possible loaning of the City Seal art.

**Possible City Art Collection addition:** A gift from Biff and Jean Shaw, a stone rubbing of a rooster, framed with grey matting, by artist Alfred Blanchard. Joyce moved that the commission accept the lithograph "Rooster" by artist Alfred Blanchard, and with gratitude to Biff and Jean Shaw for their generous gift. Seconded by Lee. Carried unanimously. MCA Secretary to send the thank you letter.

##### **Other:**

- i) City I.D. cards: This is an optional card being offered to all commissioners conducting commission business in the Municipal Building after hours.
- ii) Lee asked the commission if we would like to change the date of our December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting to December 12<sup>th</sup>. Linda motioned that we change the Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> MCA meeting to Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. Franca seconded. Carried unanimously.

#### **Miscellaneous**

##### **Grant Reports:**

- i) MCA received the final report from Aryn Kyer for the 9/15/2011 grant.
- ii) MCA received the final report from Oddfellows for the 9/15/2011 grant.

**Thank you letter:** MCA received the thank you letter from the Davison Art Center, Wesleyan.

##### **Other:**

- i) Barbara shared a very busy week of arts events in Middletown: including the anniversary of the Davidson Arts Center, Wesleyan and the Opera at Middletown Performing Arts Theater, the Middletown Chorale, the Phoolan Devi opera, and a Library author reading.
- ii) Joyce reported that the Greater Middletown Chorale sang at the Bethany Church in Berlin, it was well attended. The Chorale is also presenting a documentary, Shining Knight, for its CT premiere, June 12<sup>th</sup> in the Wesleyan Chapel at 7 pm, tickets are \$15 and is a fundraiser for the Chorale.

#### **Adjournment**

Jenny moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Franca. Carried. The MCA will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in the City Arts Office, 100 Riverview Center-Suite 140.

Respectfully submitted  
Jenny Hawkins Lecce